

Dear Jim,

8/17/84

If I hadn't overreacted to the spraying yesterday I'd probably have done more today and not read the NYTimes story on the internal dissension within the ACLU. My protine was over 28 Monday, my own doctor is away, and his asst/date, worried, I think overreacted and told me not to take any anticoagulant that day. After two days of the ~~max~~ usual dosage it was only up to a little over 14 yesterday. He told me not to take any extra then and I haven't, but I think he was wrong. So, it knocked me out after I did one trip of spraying and I remained inside and took it easy. I felt OK after twice as much today, but as I was sitting and sweating it out I read the story and then sat and thought about it. And decided to write him. As I hope he does not resent.

I'd just finished the letter when Les phoned. He was impressed with the arguments I'd given him and he's decided to do a story. But on a different basis, from his own thinking. It is simple and correct: if they did not intend to lie, deceive and misrepresent why, of all the possible formulations, did they resort to the one they used before the courts. And all that would be before the Supreme Court if the case went there?

He's tried to phone Whittaker, who isn't in. He wanted to ask me about phoning Schaitman or others and I suggested he await her return because while all the signatories are responsible, she is the author. He suspects that when she is back he'll be referred to the flacks and I said then would be the time to phone others and then he could also say that she/they refused to talk about it.

I told him I'm not in any rush, that the only other one I'd likely talk to is Lardner, and that I'll not as long as he is considering it anyway. She is due back the 24th.

This is just to let you know. I think it best that we just keep quiet and let what happens happen. I've sent him nothing not in the case record.

About this, that is. I've sent him other records as I made copies for Theoharis, and he was entertained. Also reminded. About the denied leaks.

I told him I'd not been able to decide if Hoover's notes were intended to cover Hoover's ass or or if the others were conning him. He is inclined to think that Hoover had a pretty good idea what was going on and did not disapprove.

Best,